

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 7, 2016**

The Jasper County Commissioners met this date at 8:15 A.M., C.S.T., in the Commissioners' Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Kendell Culp, James A. Walstra and Richard E. Maxwell. Also present were Auditor Kimberly K. Grow, Deputy Auditor Tina Porter, Highway Engineer / Supervisor Jack R. Haberlin and the Attorney that represents the Commissioners Eric J. Beaver. The meeting was called to order and those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Harry Carney.

CLAIMS: Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PAYROLL: Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the payroll for the check dates equal to October 14, 2016 and October 30, 2016. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

MINUTES: Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the minutes from the regular October 3, 2016 meeting. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

BURIED CABLE: Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the three requests for Sprint in Walker, Kankakee and Wheatfield Townships. There is no tile in the area. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

JACK HABERLIN / LRS CONTRACT: Mr. Haberlin brought three copies of the Local Roads and Streets matching grant contract that need signed and attested. He stated that Attorney Beaver has looked at it. Mr. Walstra approved the contract. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

JACK HABERLIN / NIPSCO / 250 EAST: Mr. Haberlin stated that NIPSCO wants to close the portion of 250 E that they've taken over and have actually put signs up stating the road will be closed December 1st. Mr. Maxwell and Mrs. Ackerman stated that there is also a gate up that is open with a sign stating the same. Attorney Beaver stated that it was not his intention that the road would be closed prior to the new road being constructed. NIPSCO believes they own the road outright and now have a liability issue. He sees how there could be two different interpretations of the agreement due to different terminology on two different pages of the same ordinance. NIPSCO has indicated that they are moving along with their permitting process. Attorney Beaver stated that his biggest concern is regarding the people that came to the Commissioners meeting during the hearing to voice their concerns, such as the Kankakee Valley School Corporation. He said that he's talked to Larry Graham, who indicated to him that they have plans in place to put a phone number on the gate so that people could call to have the gate opened if need be, but it would be closed to the general public. Attorney Beaver mentioned to NIPSCO the idea of a "defend and indemnify" type agreement where the County would assume any liability NIPSCO would have in regards to the road until the new road was constructed. This was not something that they were agreeable to. They are representing that they have made arrangements with the farmers, the Sheriff and the Superintendent of the Kankakee Valley School Corporation that will be satisfactory to all those parties. In the meantime, the road would be closed to the general public. Attorney Beaver asked Mr. Haberlin about taking the road off the inventory. He replied that it would probably happen the next time road inventory is done. Attorney Beaver stated that it's his understanding that the road will be built the first half of next year and he doesn't know if taking this to litigation is something that we would need to do. He is also unsure of what the outcome would be if we did do so. Mrs. Ackerman stated that she will be driving up there to take some pictures of the gate. Mr. Culp stated that we need to have a phone number to give to people that call the County about the gate.

BETH WARREN / ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS: Mrs. Warren was present to introduce E-recordings. There are two companies that would handle the recordings, one being Simplefile. Simplefile would work with Fidlar to get it all set up. They would contact the County's larger customers, such as title companies, to get accounts set up for them. This is targeted more towards larger, non-local companies that mail packages. The Recorder's office would still accept documents for recording from walk-ins customers. There is no cost to the County for e-recordings. It would actually save the County money, making the process more efficient and saving time. There is a contract that would need signed.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 7, 2016

BETH WARREN / ELECTRONIC RECORDINGS CONT'D: Mrs. Warren has been in contact with Attorney Beaver who stated that he has not looked at the contract, but is familiar with the concept. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the signing of the contract pending Attorney Beaver's approval. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

BILL WAKELAND / QUOTES: Mr. Wakeland was present and stated that he received two quotes, one from Kaufman Construction and one from Steve's Specialized Services. Kaufman's bid is for the roof and three fans only, but does not include the electricity to the fans. Steve's bid did not include the roof, but did include insulation, fans and drywall. He said that Mr. Davis looked at the job, but did not submit a quote. The consensus among the Commissioners is to have Hamstra's write up the specs for the job, as well as give a separate bid. The specs will then be given to Kaufman and Steve's Specialized Services to bid. This will all need to be done within thirty days. Mr. Wakeland will be contacting Curt Albertson at Hamstra's.

KAREN WILSON / SHEILA MAXWELL / BICENTENNIAL RE-CAP: The bicentennial celebration was held on October 11, 2016. Sheila Maxwell was nominated by her peers and chosen to be a Torch Bearer. She put together a video that she showed during the meeting. Mrs. Wilson stated that Tourism was a tremendous help in getting everything done.

ANDY BOERSMA / ANNEX REPAIR / HEALTH INSURANCE: Mr. Boersma was present and stated that he requested quotes from Toppen and Kuiper's. Kuiper's declined, stating they were too busy. Toppen submitted a quote for over \$15,000 via email. He stated that, for that amount, he thinks this should go through the bidding process. He mentioned that, included in the quote at his request, was a post sign by the sidewalk. It was agreed upon that Mr. Boersma will contact Mr. Andree also for a closed, sealed bid to be submitted after the first of the year.

Mr. Boersma had some questions regarding the termination of his health insurance upon the completion of his term as Coroner.

SHERIFF RISNER / JAIL INSPECTION / RIVER BEND HOSPITAL / SANITATION WASHER / CYBER ATTACK: Sheriff Risner was present and stated that the 2016 Jail Inspection has been completed and copies have been distributed as required by Statutes, with the exception of the President of the Council, whom he will see later this month and give him the copy at that time. Through hard work of many, we passed the inspection. There was notation regarding manpower where the staffing analysis was done. They did note that, between the Commissioners and Council, there have been allowances for additional manpower. There was some discussion regarding the six Level 6 felons being held. Sheriff Risner stated that they have applied for reimbursement and have been approved for just over \$15,000.00. The Department of Corrections allows the County \$35.00 per day reimbursement, but it actually costs the County closer to the amount of \$56.00 per day to house and maintain an inmate. There was some discussion regarding medical care, claims and the jail's assigned provider, Quality Correctional Care.

Sheriff Risner stated that there have been some issues with River Bend Hospital in regards to medical issues and requirements for release. Chief Deputy Williamson has been in contact with Rick Crawley, the CEO of River Bend. Sheriff Risner stated that he would petition the Board to look elsewhere for a Gatekeeper, such as Porter County. He said there is a lack of communication with Franciscan here in Rensselaer. Attorney Beaver stated that he looked in to the issue in early 2014 and came across where there is a court order directing someone to be taken in to emergency custody because they would be a harm to themselves, our Gatekeeper under the State regime has the final say, which is River Bend. There is a process in the regulations that allows a County to file a request with the State to be transferred to a different Gatekeeper. He said at the time that he was looking in to this, Franciscan was still Jasper County Hospital. The idea at the time was to wait and see what happens with the hospital once ownership changes hands, but it sounds like we are back where we were. He doesn't believe that we have a contract with River Bend, but rather are assigned to them under State law. He said we have the option to petition the State to be reassigned to a different agency. Attorney Beaver will be doing some research in to the matter.

The next topic is regarding the system at the jail that keeps scaling out of the pipes. The sanitation washer in the kitchen requires a lower level of hardness in the water to work effectively.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 7, 2016**

SHERIFF RISNER / JAIL INSPECTION / RIVER BEND HOSPITAL / SANITATION WASHER / CYBER ATTACK CONT'D: The hardness of the water is tested as part of the regular maintenance. The level has to be ten or below. The last test went from a two to a six. He is not sure what is causing the hardness to increase, but if it continues, it will affect the sanitation in the kitchen. Auditor Grow will contact the company that installed the system and ask them to come out for a service call.

Sheriff Risner stated that there's been a cyberattack to a County Government in the State of Indiana. It is ransomware and has shut down the entire government, including the Sheriff's Office. The proper authorities have been notified and the investigation is on-going. Ryan King mentioned that it might be a good idea for the County to look in to a cyberattack policy, although they are very expensive. Bill Batley stated that the County does have preventative measures in place, such as off-site storage. He said that it would be a good idea to have a group of people that would be impacted by this have a meeting within the next week. Nick Fiala from the Rensselaer Republican asked if the voting could be impacted by the attack. Mr. Batley replied that it's a totally separate thing and that none of our voting equipment has ever touched the internet, regardless of what anyone might say.

ROWE AND AMY SIGLER / 900 NORTH: Rowe and Amy Sigler sent a letter voicing their concerns regarding the speeding drivers on 900 North and their disregard for stopped school busses. They provided details of three incidents that were reported and gave some suggestions for what they think might help remedy the situation. Sheriff Risner was present and stated that the speed limit is currently 55 mph and is a heavily traveled road. He agreed that a reduction is warranted and mentioned that it would be nice to have centerlines painted on the roadways. The response from the Commissioners was that centerlines used to be painted, but the practice was stopped due to the chance it could become a liability to the County if the paint faded. Sheriff Risner said additional signage would even be nice. Mr. Culp said that the Rowe's also requested a four way stop at 400 West.

NIPSCO / 250 EAST CONT'D: Mr. Culp asked Sheriff Risner if NIPSCO has called him in regards to 250 East. He replied that they did and he had assumed that the new road would be put in before the old one was closed. Mr. Culp told him that there are now signs and gates up. Sheriff Risner stated that NIPSCO was supposed to call them back with an emergency number. He said that he was informed by a citizen that the gates are closed. He has yet to receive a call back with the emergency number. He said he does not want the number to be one that will be answered by an automated system. Mr. Culp told him that Mrs. Ackerman is going to drive up there and take pictures of the sign. Mr. Culp said that the County's plans when people call are to give them the number that's on the sign for them to call NIPSCO. Sheriff Risner will be contacting Mr. Larry Graham.

MARK SINCLAIR / ANIMAL CONTROL: Mr. Sinclair was present and stated that his part-time Animal Control Officer quit a few weeks ago. He requested permission to replace that person. Mr. Culp stated that it was his understanding that Mr. Sinclair was given more money for part-time in his up-coming budget. He replied that the money that was allotted was for the week-end person because, for the last several years, there was not enough to pay that person and she's at the lower half of the pay scale. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve the replacement of the part-time position. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

ROWE AND AMY SIGLER / 900 NORTH CONT'D: The consensus was to lower the speed limit to 45 mph from State Road 49 to State Road 231, with the exception of the stretch of road in Kniman that will remain at the currently posted 35 mph limit. Also, a four-way stop will be considered at 400 West and 900 North. A public hearing will be scheduled.

ATTORNEY BEAVER / UPDATES: The Jasper County Code is still moving forward with the company in Seattle.

The County Council approved the Ordinance at their last meeting that sets the terms and conditions of the purchase of the property to the west of the fairgrounds from the Gilmore's. There was not a final purchase price until the final boundary survey was performed.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 7, 2016

ATTORNEY BEAVER / UPDATES CONT'D: The survey has been completed and there is now a final acreage figure. The documents have been sent to Land Title for them to prepare a title commitment and closing package.

There have been three questions that have been referred to him by the GIS Committee that he has spent a good amount of time on. A lot of it is based on comments that have been made at recent meetings and in regards to the process for splitting land. In general, the control on the process has been the issue, as well as building permits and how our subdivision code is set up. He thinks that we can make some changes to the law. In 2011, it was amended to allow a person to request to opt out or get a waiver from the subdivision control ordinance, which can be approved by the Plan Commission. He believes we can update our subdivision code. He's looked at other counties and the way they do it and it's all over the map. He believes a solution can be worked out. He will have a written opinion that will set out different options fairly soon. He will also be consulting with Dawn Hoffman.

Regarding the jail bond refinance, the Building Corporation has met and given their authorization to move forward. Umbaugh has been retained by Jasper County as well as Barnes and Thornburg. The process is still moving forward.

The Justice Department project has been pushed aside due to other priorities, but will be pushed back to the forefront.

STACE PICKERING / DATA COMPROMISE: Mr. Pickering stated that data compromise was quoted in 2014 and was about \$1,000 for \$100,000 in coverage and was declined at the time. Mr. Culp asked what that would cover. Mr. Pickering replied that he would need to get the details and updated quote info. Mr. Culp stated that it's something we should look in to.

CONCERNED CITIZEN / DR. GORDON KLOCKOW: Mr. Klockow was present and stated that he's reviewed the County ordinances and found that the County will reimburse a farmer for loss of farm animals due to a dog attack, but there is no reimbursement for injury to a human or domestic pet. He said his wife and their pet were attacked and their dog was given a fifty percent chance of survival, but is doing well. Their bills are about \$600.00. He said they will have to go to small claims court against the owner of the dog. He said that this was the eighth attack by this dog and that Mr. Sinclair was finally able to get the dog and it was euthanized last week. Mr. Klockow stated that he's unsure if he should address the City ordinances or if it should be with the County because there are differing opinions between the two. Mr. Culp stated that Mr. Klockow's wife's attack happened in the City and he asked which would take precedence, City or County. Attorney Beaver asked if it was a County owned or controlled animal and why the County would be responsible for any monetary payment. Mr. Klockow replied that he doesn't know this and that there's no ordinance that deals with this, but he thinks it should be addressed. Attorney Beaver stated that he's not sure what the City ordinance is. Mr. Klockow replied that the City fined the owner \$100.00, but that money goes in to the City coffer. Attorney Beaver stated that the Klockow's may have a civil remedy. He also stated that once the County code is done, the law will be more accessible to everyone. He is aware of a "Dangerous Animal" ordinance and the County may be limited as to how much we can do. Mr. Klockow said that the dog should not have been allowed to attack eight times.

Mr. Klockow also wanted to mention that he is board certified in pain management and normally doesn't use Class 2 Narcotics in his treatment of pain management. He's involved with Partners for Drug Free Jasper County and has talked with Chief Williamson. They are setting up the next three year cycle. They are looking in to developing a half-way house, a men's shelter and something to help fight the drug problem. There are some successful programs available. A lot of them tend to involve churches. He would like to get a group together to address this. Right now it's a vision and they are looking at three to five years down the road.

RAY SEIF / UPDATE: Mr. Seif was present to give a quick update for the Airport. They are still working on the hangar project. The foundation of the hangar is complete, Town and Country will be starting the paving this week and the hangar steel will arrive next week.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 7, 2016

RAY SEIF / UPDATE: INDOT is doing an economic development study in regards to the airport. An Aviation Field Day is being planned for the schools in Jasper County and North and South Newton. It is tentatively scheduled for March. Mr. Klockow asked if there are any plans for an east/west runway. Mr. Seif replied that they would love to put one in, but it is a ten million dollar project. They would have to show that there is a big need for it.

At this time, there was a break for the Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE JASPER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Jasper met in Executive Session at 10:15 A.M. CST this 7th day of November 2016, in the Commissioners Room of the Jasper County Courthouse, located at 115 W. Washington St., Suite 202, Rensselaer, IN for the discussion of insurance renewals.

Present were Board Members Kendell Culp, James A. Walstra and Richard E. Maxwell. Also present was Auditor Kimberly K. Grow and Deputy Auditor Tina Porter as well as Daniel Fagen and Jack Fagen from Financial Arts, Inc. and Tracy Thiel, the Client Vice President of Key Benefit Administrators.

The meeting concluded at 10:55 A.M. and the Commissioners went back in to normal session.

KEY BENEFITS RENEWAL: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the four documents presented that are necessary to renew coverage with Key Benefits. They are the ERISA Disclosure Notice, the KBA Administration Fee Schedule, the Optum Specific Coverage document and the Administrative Services Proposal. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

TELEDOC: Mr. Culp asked Dan Fagen what his thoughts are on promoting Teledoc. Ms. Thiel stated that, for implementation, she assumes Auditor Grow will be the contact person. Healthiest You, will conduct a "Welcome Call" and will set up the communication pieces the County prefers. Mr. Culp asked if you can turn on location so the app knows where you are. Ms. Thiel replied that the app has geo-fencing built in to the app.

EXTENSION OFFICE CONTRACT: Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the Amendment to the Extension Contractual Services Agreement for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

CIRCUIT CLERK / COMP TIME EXTENSION REQUEST: Vickie Bozell requested by letter that the following employees be allowed to carry over comp time to be used by the end of November: Kara Fishburn, Donna Moore and Carol Minter. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE / COMP TIME EXTENSION REQUEST: Christine Haskell requested by letter that Denise Powell and Wendy Kressin be allowed to carry over comp time past October 31, 2016. Mr. Walstra made the motion to extend the time until January 1, 2017. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / COMP TIME EXTENSION REQUEST: Mr. Wakeland requested by letter that Regina Coulter, Sherri Rotkovich and Sheryl Warren be allowed to carry over comp time until November 30, 2016. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

ANIMAL CONTROL / COMP TIME EXTENSION REQUEST: Mr. Sinclair requested by letter permission to extend his comp time through the end of November. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the extension through the end of the year. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

VETERAN'S OFFICE: Auditor Grow presented a vacation request from Pat Donnelly that needed signed.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 7, 2016**

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / TRAINING REQUEST: Mr. Wakeland requested permission for Darci Donnelly and Sherri Rotkovich to attend the IACCAC Fall Training in Indianapolis November 15-18. The cost is \$250.00 per person and the cost of training, hotel and meals will be paid out of Project Income. Mr. Walstra made the motion to approve. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE: Auditor Grow presented the preliminary meeting schedule for 2017. Mr. Culp stated that it would be finalized at the December meeting.

LAFAYETTE BANK AND TRUST: Auditor Grow stated that the State is requiring the County to do wires or ACH's for all of our fines and fees and any funding that is being done electronically. Lafayette Bank is charging \$25 per wire. The State didn't realize this would happen when they began the requirement. She stated that she talked to Mr. Fred VanDorp and he told her to talk to the Commissioners to see if the County can get a waiver until next year when maybe we can find an institution that will do it for free. She was given permission by Mr. Culp to talk to Susie Benner at the bank to ask for a waiver.

BOARD OF FINANCE: Mr. Haberlin brought up the Board of Finance meeting schedule. Auditor Grow will ask Carla Anderson if they can have the meeting on Wednesday, January 4th.

NIPSCO / COUNTY ROAD 250 EAST / SURVEY: Auditor Grow presented the bill from Turning Point Surveying, Inc. It was decided that the bill needs to be paid from the 530 General Fund.

FAIRGROUNDS PURCHASE / SURVEY: Auditor Grow presented the bill from Michael Kingman / Jasper County Land Surveying Services. It was decided that this would be paid from Professional Services. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the recording of the survey. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

RECYCLING TRAILER: Joe and Katie Clouse will be overseeing the recycling trailer in Remington. It will start Saturday, November 12, 2016 and will be open 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Mr. Clouse will need a key so it can be locked. Mr. Culp told him he would be paid \$40 per Saturday and he was agreeable to that.

JACK HABERLIN: Mr. Haberlin stated that they are ready to start replacing Bridge 123, which is on 900 West, just North of State Road 14 in Parr. Ken from BFS stated that he will need a letting date. There was some discussion on when the ideal time would be to have the road closed. The project will take at least three months. Mr. Culp stated that he would like to see it completed before Labor Day, 2017. It was decided on to advertise for the next meeting. BFS will handle the advertisements. Ken stated that he will be semi-retiring next year and introduced Mr. Jake Damarell, who will be his replacement.

The meeting was continued to the Monday, November 21, 2016, if needed. Meeting now stands in recess.

JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kendell Culp, President

James A. Walstra, Vice President

Richard E. Maxwell, Member

ATTEST:

Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County

